



THUNDER NEWS

Kuwait Edition
3-16 FA / G204
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From The Battalion Commander:

Greetings to the families and friends of the Thunder Battalion. The Thunder Battalion has arrived safely in Kuwait with no complications. Our living conditions, as depicted in the picture below,

are somewhat crowded but comfortable.

The dining facility has been a pleasant surprise with hot meals provided four times a day. Our time in Kuwait has been spent conducting training before moving into Iraq. Some of the training we have focused on includes IED training, reaction to fire in live fire convoys, and Mounted Operation Urban Training.

We continue to conduct maintenance on our equipment as we prepare for our movement into Iraq sometime in mid December. The mechanics have done a great job of making sure our equipment is ready for our mission.

I want to thank the ADVON party for the excellent job done in setting the conditions for the rest of the battalion to arrive in Kuwait. HOOAH!

We will continue to update you on

a monthly basis. Thanks for all the support you give to our soldiers and our mission.

LTC Michael D. Hilliard
FA, Commanding

Hardrock's Headlines:

Hardrock has been wheels down and in overdrive for the past few days. Our overall mission remains dynamic, but disruption of the bad guys smuggling routes will be the main focus. Our mailing address has been given to Deb to ensure everyone gets it. We wait anxiously for the wonderful care packages. Hope all is well with everyone back home, all is well here. I am amazed everyday by the drive, dedication and mission focus of all of my Soldiers. They have accomplished more in 3 days of work than most



Thunder at the weapon's range



Thunder sleeping quarters

units back home could ever hope to accomplish in 6 months. My medics, radars, ops group, admin group, communications section, survey section, and meteorological section accomplish everything to the highest of standards, I am exceptionally proud of all of them. All 109 of the HHB / 3-16 FA Soldiers are great Americans, please keep them and their families in your prayers and hearts for a safe return. The true strength behind every Soldier is his family, these unsung hero's deserve a tremendous amount of respect. While we are off having fun in the sun and sand, with nothing to worry about but the next mission, our families fill our void; Wives, parents and loved ones become mom, dad, accountant, mechanic, and handy man. Please take care; we all look forward to coming home.

CPT Christopher Petty
HHB Commander

Automatic's Announcements

Greetings to the whole Automatic Family from Kuwait. We have been hard at work preparing our equipment and our soldiers to go into Iraq. We have zeroed our weapons and trained on Close Quarter Marksmanship, Manning an Entry Control Point, Urban Operations and Shoot on the move. We are in effect becoming a motorized infantry battery. How many Infantry Companies can say they can shoot artillery pieces?

I am very proud of everyone in the Battery. Their dedication and patriotism are exactly what this country needs. All deployed soldiers will receive extra pay entitlements. Try to put some of it in a savings or investment account. If you need help with budgets, see CPT Horn and he will point you to the person that can help. I want to say thank you to the family members giving your support to your warrior. Keep yourself busy and before you know it, we will all be home.

CPT Rick Showalter
Automatic Battery Commander

Bulldog's Biz

Bravo Battery has arrived in theatre. Everyone has been performing up to expectations. Safety has been a priority and we have not had any injuries. Some of our training has been so impressive that we have had local spectators.



Upon arrival at our Iraq location, email, internet, phone service, and mail will be working. We have also heard positive reports about the Dining Facility (no weight loss for us).

Bravo Battery soldiers have become very close since arriving here. It hasn't just been the fact that there are 80 soldiers to a tent,

but working long days has created created close camaraderie amongst us.

I appreciate the hard work of all the Bulldog soldiers. All are working to ensure that we are able to complete our mission in Iraq. Please be sure to remember the soldiers with your care packages this Christmas season. Keep your heads up, we'll be home soon.

CPT Steven Miller
Bulldog Battery Commander

Gladiator's Guide

To all Gladiator family members and friends it gives up great pleasure to extend to all seasons greetings. We have finally arrived in Kuwait. Our advance party personnel have done an outstanding job in planning and preparing for our arrival to Kuwait. The Golf Company advanced parties loaded and prepared the unit equipment and established our life support facilities. As we departed FT. Hood, on the 28 NOV with heavy hearts in mind, we wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our current activities have kept us busy with reenlistments and convoy live fire training. The company is well prepared for our future missions in Iraq. As we support the "Thunder Pride Battalion", we Gladiators know that the home front is the most important mission of all..... Again please keep us in your prayers and we will be home soon.

CPT Michael Buck
Golf Company Commander

REENLISTMENT

Below is a list of soldiers who have re-enlisted while in Kuwait. Thank you for your commitment to serving our great nation.

Headquarters' Battery:

SSG Dukes
SSG Reneau
SFC Olesen

Bravo Battery:

SSG Tucker
SGT Bently
SGT DeLeon
SGT Martinez
CPL Alaniz
CPL Guillermo
SPC Tibbles

Alpha Battery:

SPC Kelly

Golf Company:

SSG Hayward
SSG Whitbread
SGT Camacho
SGT Strickland
SGT Winston
SPC Rienwald
SPC McNeill
SPC Jacket
SPC Munford

THUNDER BIRTHDAYS

December B-Days

1 CPL Richey (G)
3 SFC Johnson (B)
4 SSG Petrik (HHB)
5 PFC Holloway (HHB)
7 CPT Jackson (HHB)
8 PVT Dunn (A)
8 SPC Leiva (G)
9 SPC Erazo (HHB)
9 SSG Rose (HHB)
11 PV2 GeorgeVega (A)
11 SGT Lloyd (A)
12 PV2 Scott (A)
14 PV2 Haas (A)
14 PFC Schenk (HHB)
15 SPC Finley (G)
16 PVT Olvera (A)
16 SGT Brown (A)
19 SPC Tibbles (B)
19 WO1 Rodriguez (HHB)
21 SPC Largo (HHB)
22 SFC May (G)
22 1SG Williams (HHB)
23 SFC Stevenson (A)
24 MSG Jackson (HHB)
25 SGT Robinson (A)
25 SGT Vaquera (B)
27 SPC Minshall (HHB)
29 CPT Petty (HHB)
29 PVT Cornelius (B)
30 PFC Welbron (G)
31 PFC Rosales (HHB)

January B-Days

1 PFC Sunday (G)
2 SSG Pollard (G)
3 SPC Keller (G)
3 PFC Milam (G)
5 PFC Beaushaw (B)
6 1LT Lardizabal (A)
7 PFC McClarin (B)
7 SPC Camacho (G)
9 PFC Borem (G)
10 SFC Rodriguez (B)
14 PFC Shapard (B)
14 SPC Benthin (G)
14 CPL Guillermo (B)
15 SGT Warthen (B)
15 PFC Adams (B)
16 SPC Knudson (G)
19 PFC Rigney (G)
19 CPL Seckinger (B)
26 PFC Pepper (HHB)
27 PV2 Bradley (A)
27 PV2 Havay (B)
27 CPL Thuma (HHB)
27 SFC Moore (HHB)
28 PFC Quiros (HHB)
28 PFC Sayer (HHB)
28 SGT Blaha (HHB)
29 PV2 Ray (A)
31 PV2 Lutz (B)
31 PFC Odom (G)



Gladiators



1LT Hale congratulates SGT Winston on his re-enlistment.



3-16 Medics are HOOAH!



Does anyone know these guys?